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INFORMAL MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANTS  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL FOREIGN INFORMATION ORGANIZATION ON  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1950 at 4:00 p.m. in  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PRESENT: Department of State - Mr. Sargeant, Acting Director  
Mr. Stone, Executive Secretary  
Mr. Hulten  
Mr. Phillips  
Mr. Kohler  
Mr. Bruskin (IFIS)  
Department of Defense - General Magruder  
Joint Chiefs of Staff - Admiral Stevens  
Department of the Army - General McClure  
Central Intelligence Agency - Mr. Wisner  
Economic Cooperation Administration - Mr. Berding

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was deferred to the next meeting.

Mr. Sargeant referred to a question raised by General McClure at the meeting of December 18 regarding a statement in the press attributed to an official of the American Embassy in Korea, which might be interpreted as a commitment by the United States. Mr. Hulten reported that a communication has been received on this subject from Ambassador Muccio and that the State Department had requested further information regarding the circumstances and accuracy of the statement as published in the press.

With regard to item I of the agenda, Mr. Phillips reported that the working group on the Russian plan had made considerable progress on a statement of psychological objectives toward the Soviet Union, and that a draft of the plan would be circulated to IFIO on January 4. Mr. Phillips also reported that the China working group, which has been reactivated, expects to circulate a draft report by January 4. He pointed out that the China plan does not deal specifically with propaganda directed toward Chinese troops in Korea. It was agreed that the question of whether the plan is adequate for current output to the Chinese in Korea should be considered when the plan is circulated.

In connection with the discussion of policy matters, Mr. Kohler, Chief of the International Broadcasting Division of the State Department, reported on steps which are being taken to strengthen the organization of the Russian language unit of VOA. Mr. Kohler answered several questions by members of the board regarding policy guidance matters,

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State Department review completed

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stockpiling of themes or scripts for emergency situations and use of defectors.

With regard to item II of the agenda, Mr. Stone and Mr. Bruskin summarized the IFIS Report on Roster of Personnel for Psychological Warfare (IFIS 14/3). Following general discussion, the conclusion was reached that the report should not be approved at this time because of the difficulty of securing personnel to work on the proposed committee and the questionable value of the roster to the operating departments and agencies. The Board did not make a final decision on this project but agreed that the question might be re-opened at the request of any member of the Board.

Mr. Hulten noted that a number of State Department officers with experience in psychological warfare, and holding reserve commissions, were being called up by the Service Departments. Admiral Stevens offered to serve as a clearing house to notify the Services regarding such personnel. It was agreed that Mr. Hulten would arrange to inform Admiral Stevens' office when individuals with psychological warfare experience are called up for duty as reserve officers.

With regard to item III, Mr. Sargeant reviewed the concept behind the paper "Operation Brainwave" circulated by Mr. Barrett. As time did not permit discussion, it was agreed to place this item on the agenda of the next regular meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 1950.